

Claims

1. A hydrobromide salt of morphine-6- β -D-glucuronide (M6G.HBr).

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2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an analgesically effective amount of M6G.HBr together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.

10 3. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an amount of M6G.HBr effective for the treatment of breathlessness in a subject with advanced cancer, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or diluent.

15 4. M6G.HBr for use as a medicament.

5. Use of M6G.HBr in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of pain.

20 6. Use according to claim 5 for the treatment of moderate to severe pain in acute or chronic conditions.

7. Use of M6G.HBr in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of breathlessness in a subject with advanced cancer.

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8. A method of treating pain which comprises administering a subject with an analgesically effective amount of M6G.HBr.

30 9. A method of treating breathlessness in a subject with advanced cancer which comprises administering the subject with an amount of M6G.HBr which is effective for reducing breathlessness.

10. A method of making M6G.HBr which comprises:

35 (i) contacting a hydrogen bromide solution with a solution of M6G in methanol;

(ii) contacting the solution resulting from step (i) with an organic solvent to precipitate M6G.HBr; and
(iii) isolating M6G.HBr precipitated in step (ii).

5 11. A method according to claim 10, in which the solutions and solvent are at -15°C, or below.

12. A method according to claim 10 or 11, which further comprises washing the precipitated M6G.HBr to minimise the
10 amount of organic solvent present.

13. A method according to claim 12, in which the precipitated M6G.HBr is washed with diethyl ether.

15 14. A method according to any of claims 10 to 13, in which the organic solvent of step (ii) is 2-propanol.